

Senators from Oklahoma and Nevada be allowed to continue.

Mr. INHOFE. Reserving the right to object, I would like to not have that extend beyond the next 2 minutes because I want to use the last 8 minutes.

Mr. REID. If I could have 1 minute to respond.

Mr. INHOFE. No objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I would say, first of all, that was wrongly characterized as the largest tax increase in history. And I would further state that the Senate budget we have received also has a tax cut. It is disguised. But what it does, any savings that come as a result of the balanced budget would be referred to the Finance Committee and the Finance Committee only use that money for tax decreases.

So both the Senate version of the budget and the House version of the budget have tax cuts. The House was more apparent in theirs. They have about \$385 billion in tax cuts. The Senate proposal is a little more camouflaged but there is still a call for \$170 billion in tax cuts because that is all the Finance Committee could use the money for as savings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I would be happy to yield the time I have to the Senator from Oklahoma.

BALANCING THE FEDERAL BUDGET

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, first of all, I thank the Senator from Nevada for responding to questions. I would like to make an observation.

I had the occasion to be sitting in the chair for the past hour before the current occupant of the chair, and I listened to the discussion that took place in the Chamber. It occurred to me that maybe some people for the first time realize how truly difficult it is to balance the budget.

I had an occasion last night to see on C-SPAN the Democratic whip in the House of Representatives standing up and talking and stating over and over and over again that they are requesting reductions in taxes for the very wealthy people and that those reductions in taxes will be paid by what has always been referred to as the working people. And I have always found that to be a little offensive. It is kind of implying that other people are not working. I think it is a very clever way to state it because everyone identifies with that.

But we are at a defining moment right now. There was truly a revolution that took place on November 8, 1994, and everyone agrees with this. I know there are others who do not like the way it turned out, but the conservatives did, in fact, win.

And while there is a lot of confusion over this as to how it must be done, the message that came in November 1994

was: "We demand change. We don't want the status quo."

Now we are seeing the defenders of the status quo on this floor talking about, "Well, we can't do this. We can't have a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. We can't adopt the budget as proposed by the Republicans because it might incur a hardship on some of the people in this country."

I would suggest, first of all, that we make it abundantly clear that the budget that is going to be proposed in both the other body and in this body does not have a cut in Medicare. As a matter of fact, it adds a bit in growth in Medicare. That growth is somewhere around 7.1 percent.

The President had a report from his trustees on Medicare. There are six of them. He appointed them. We are talking about people like Donna Shalala and people like the other Cabinet members. They reported to the President of the United States that if we do not do something about Medicare, Medicare will start into a deficit in the fiscal year of 1997 and will be broke, bankrupt, in the year 2002.

Now, there are a lot of people watching right now who, like me, will reach the age of 65 by the year 2002, and they have to understand that this is not a Republican suggestion or study that has developed the conclusion that it will go broke by the year 2002. These are the trustees of the Medicare system that were appointed by the President.

Now what has the President done since then? Where is the President? He has not even responded to that. And yet, he is adhering to his budget. Only yesterday, he announced he was going to veto the rescissions bill, which was a reduction in spending of \$16.4 billion, the largest single reduction, I believe, in the history of this country. He says he is going to veto this reduction, the spending reductions.

I think it is just inconceivable that someone who ran for office on reducing spending, someone who ran on a balanced budget for this country, would now come up and say, in this fiscal year of 1995, the rescissions bill that has been proposed and that was passed by a majority of votes in the House and the Senate will be vetoed by the President of the United States.

I also think it is necessary for us to reaffirm our commitment to children. I hear over and over again about this program is going to be cut, or that program is going to be cut.

Yes, some programs are going to be cut and there are going to be some hardships if we do successfully balance the budget by the year 2002. But we cannot stand up here on the floor, as the Senator from Nevada did a few moments ago, and talk about the fact that every Senator, every one of the 100 Senators here in the U.S. Senate, wants to have a balanced budget by the year 2002 and not do anything today to bring it about.

You know, this is an exciting time. Right now, this week, we are going to

be debating, and next week we probably will have a vote in both bodies on a budget that will eliminate the deficit by the year 2002.

I heard Congressman DELAY talk about the fact that he has been waiting his entire life for this moment to come. And all of those who voted for a major change on November 8, 1994, this is the change. Of all the things that that mandate said to Congress from the American people, it said we want less Government intrusion in our lives. It said that we want to do something about keeping America strong in its defense. But, first and foremost, it said, we want to balance the budget.

I had an experience the other day when we had our National Prayer Breakfast. When I left the House, I was president of the House Prayer Breakfast, so I was kind of in charge, I say to the Senator, of the international visitors.

There was a gentleman who came into our National Prayer Breakfast from Moldavia. He was beaming from ear to ear. He came up to me and he said, "Senator, we are so proud. We now have a free economy. We have been under communism for all these years, now we have democracy. But I have a question to ask you. In America, how much can you keep?"

And I said, "I'm sorry, I don't think I understand your question." He said, "In America, how much does the Government take from you?"

Then I understood what he was saying, and so I gave him a figure that I would hate to have to stand here and try to justify.

But he said, very proudly, "In Moldavia, when we go out and we earn a dollar, we get to keep 20 cents."

They have some kind of a periodic collection. At the end of every month, they have to give 80 cents out of every dollar they earn to the Government. He was so proud they had reached that point.

I thought how fortunate we are in this country, until I realized and looked at the picture of my two grandchildren. And the CBO, and others in every study, no one has disagreed, said that if we do not do something to change the trend in this country of deficit spending, that anyone who is born today will have to spend 82 percent of his or her lifetime income to support the Government. And that is worse off than they are in Moldavia.

So I would just caution you, Mr. President, and others who may hear the stories of the bleeding hearts talking about all these Government programs that are going to be cut, to stop and realize, in most cases, that is not true at all. It is not the case of Social Security, it is not the case of Medicare, it is not the case of Medicaid.

And if, in fact, we could actually put a growth cap on Government, as I think one amendment by Senator GRAMM is going to attempt to do, of 3.2

percent, we end up balancing the budget without cutting one Federal program and without reducing one Federal program by merely putting caps on.

So I think we have to ask ourselves a question, Mr. President, not should we do this this week or next week, but what happens if we do not. Are we going to have another opportunity in the U.S. Senate or the other body to actually come up with a balanced budget? And we have to ask the question: Where will our children be if we do not vote properly?

I know there are well-meaning people on the other side of this. They say we want a balanced budget, they want to do something by the year 2002. I would like to do it sooner. Most of us would. But talking is one thing and doing is another thing.

It is not going to be easy, but I suggest to you, Mr. President—I know that my time is up and morning business up—I suggest to you, if we do not do it this time, we will probably not be able to do it in our lifetimes.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to the consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 13, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 13) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for the fiscal years 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002.

The Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I have been authorized by the chairman to speak, and the time to come off the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CAMPBELL). The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SANTORUM. Thank you, Mr. President.

I feel somewhat privileged to be the first person to speak on this historic resolution that has just been laid down by the U.S. Senate. It is, in fact, a historic moment for this Chamber that we are going to finally come to grips and face and look straight in the eye the future of our country and the children of our country and say we are now prepared to act on your behalf. We are now prepared to take the tough stands and to weather the beatings that we will be getting from the press and from the other side to stand up for the future generations of Americans so we can, like my grandfather who came here as an immigrant and my father who came here as an immigrant, try to

leave the country better off and with more opportunities than their generation had.

We have stopped doing that in America, and this is a chance to start over, to start anew, to give us the opportunity right here on this Senate floor to move forward, to move this country forward into a new millennium with sound fiscal policy and with opportunity available to every American. That is what this is all about.

This is not about the minutiae that you are going to hear on the floor of the Senate about, "Oh, well, we're going to cut this program and as a result of the program"—listen, a Government program, a Government program which most people know, most Government programs, big administrative costs, do not necessarily target the way they are supposed to, but we are going to cut a Government program and there will be hundreds of them discussed in the next 50 hours.

We are going to take a Government program and that program itself will jeopardize our future so greatly that it is more important to preserve this little bit more funding for this program than it is to balance the Federal budget and to preserve the long-term future of this country. That argument in itself just fails; it is ridiculous. There is nothing we do in Washington, DC—nothing—no individual program that stands above providing future generations the opportunity to succeed in America. Nothing.

So when you look and you hear all the debate about all the minutiae that you are going to discuss, all the little programs that somebody likes to scare people with that we are going to abolish or cut or whatever, remember the big picture. The big picture is: We balance the budget in 7 years, we provide fiscal sanity for future generations and, frankly, for this generation with several programs, and that is what we have to focus on. That is what the issue is.

You are going to hear a lot about, as I was hearing a few minutes ago, tax cuts for the rich paid for by cutting working middle-class programs, so we are going to take money away from working Americans, working American families for tax cuts for the rich. I do not know about you, but as far as I understand the Tax Code, you get taxed if you work, you get taxed if you make money. So if you are cutting taxes for people who work, I do not know how that is hurting working American families, particularly since the biggest item in the tax cut proposal that is being proposed is a tax cut of \$500 for families, a credit of \$500 per family.

Now, how is that hurting families? The only families that could conceivably hurt are those that do not have children and those who do not make enough money to pay taxes. But to say that you are cutting programs for tax-paying families, yeah, OK, but then we are giving it back to them where they can spend the money where they want

to spend it. They get all of it, not siphoned off from Washington with the administrative costs and the overhead and the direction of what we think is best to spend money, but they get the whole pot.

I see the majority leader is here, so I will cease my comments because I know he is really the proper one to lead this off. But I am telling you, this is going to be a great day in the U.S. Senate. It is a day that we should be very, very proud, as all Members of the Senate, that we are having this discussion. It is unfortunate that the President of the United States has chosen not to participate in this discussion, that he has chosen to sit on the sidelines and throw either confetti or darts from the stands and not participate and get involved in solving the No. 1 problem of this Nation by presenting a budget that is balanced.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. DOLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader, Senator DOLE, is recognized.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from Pennsylvania. I commend him for his forthright statement. This is going to be a very important debate, in effect, for everybody in America, I believe for the better if we can keep it on that plane. I certainly look forward to Senator DOMENICI's opening statement, and I will follow with my budget statement after Senator DOMENICI.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I assume we will follow the typical process and procedure that we have in the past. As the majority leader of the bill, I will have some opening remarks and I, obviously, will quickly yield to the Senator from Nebraska who will have his opening remarks. I would like the Senate to know that as we read the budget law, there is up to 4 hours for discussion of economics and the macro effect of the budget and the like. Some Senators on our side would like to speak during that period to what they consider to be a historic event, a redefining event for America. So we are going to let as many of them as possible do that without in any way violating our comity with the other side. As soon as we can, we will get into a rotation on amendments.

The Senator from New Mexico will try sometime this evening to offer the first amendment. It should come as a shock to no one. It will be the President's budget. The President's press secretary suggested yesterday that it would be a much better starting point to start with the President. So we will accommodate and put that budget before the Senate and see what they think about it. Then we will go to the Democrat side for their amendment and we will move back and forth.

I am permitted by the majority leader pursuant to his instructions to talk about the fact that we are going to be in next week late. If the full 50 hours is going to be used, obviously we are